

Green Building Codes

Our cross-cutting team offers experience ranging from energy to wastewater and all sections of green building programs in between.

Planning for a New Program — Your Community

The past several years have seen tremendous activity in green programs and sustainable development across the country. States and jurisdictions are addressing the challenges of constrained resources and concerns for the climate by developing and adopting sustainability plans and **Green Building Codes** and programs.

Green Building Codes and Programs

The objectives of **Green Building Codes** are not new, but their packaging and metrics are. In the 1970s and into the 1980s, communities addressed water conservation, recycling, and energy conservation in a variety of ways.

Energy efficiency was commonly viewed as a function of not just the building, but also its siting, orientation, shading, and the general neighborhood layout.

Today, the growth in green building programs is substantial.

Energy Codes — Efficient and Sustainable Use

Energy codes have resulted in transformational changes in building energy consumption, and the benefits of these changes include reductions in energy consumption, cost, and CO₂ emissions. The results of these efforts are significant. **Green Building Codes** go beyond the energy codes, raising the bar for energy efficiency. Initially serving as a proving ground, green building programs eventually make transformative efficiency improvements in the residential and commercial building marketplace.



Site Sustainability — An Essential First Step

Site selection will determine access to public transportation, parks and recreation, bike paths and walkways, and whether environmentally sensitive areas are avoided.

Site sustainability is a major consideration in planning.

Water and Wastewater

Water use efficiency and conservation can be addressed via multiple approaches and offers tremendous potential. For instance, a typical 100,000 square foot office building can reduce indoor water use by 30% using low flow fixtures with sensors and automatic controls.

www.energycodes.gov/GreenBuildings

Sustainable design requires a thoughtful, integrated approach. Contemporary resources build on traditions of natural ventilation and daylight, marrying them with solid-state lighting and control systems. Our **Green Building Codes website** is a gateway to green, with links to resources, technical documents, websites, and more.

- Low-impact Development Design Strategies
- Green Infrastructure
- The Advanced Energy Design Guide
- Greenhouse Gas Resources
- Home Energy Rating System
- Building Energy Use and Cost Analysis Software
- Rethinking Percent Savings: The Problem with Percent Savings and the New Scale for a Zero Net-Energy Future
- Energy Performance of LEED® for New Construction Buildings
- Environmental Law Institute, Brownfields Center

The answer to your question may be a phone call or mouse click away. Contact us at green.building@pnl.gov or visit the [website](http://www.energycodes.gov/GreenBuildings) for additional information.




Building Energy Codes

EERE Information Center
1-877-EERE-INFO (1-877-337-3463)
eere.energy.gov/informationcenter

PNNL-SA-80587

Green Building Codes = Beyond Codes = Sustainability

The Department of Energy's Building Energy Codes Program provides comprehensive support for state and local green building programs at no cost. Our team has experience with engaging stakeholders, code development and adoption process, and all facets of building performance.

Our Building Energy Codes Experts:

Michelle Britt — Local and Regional Planning and Code Issues

Kim Fowler — Integrated Design and Materials Resources

Jordan Henderson — Site Development

Kate McMordie Stoughton — Water and Wastewater

Angela Kora — Greenhouse Gas Management and Sustainable Design

Will Gorrissen — Building Energy and Renewables

Nora Wang — Lighting and Daylighting

Eric Makela — Code Development Adoption and Enforcement

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